

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY
(1 June 1966)

**From an editorial entitled: "Nurture the Revolutionary
Younger Generation in the Ideas of Mao Tse-tung!"**

Comrade Mao Tse-tung always attaches importance to the healthy growth of children and regards their movement as part of the whole revolutionary movement. He asks the youngsters to study diligently and improve rapidly. He calls for the younger generation to be trained to become the successors to the proletarian revolutionary cause.

With the close concern of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and under the leadership of the Communist Party organizations at all levels, there has been a still greater development in China's youth movement in the past few years. The number of the Young Pioneers has increased from 50 million in 1965 to the present figure of 100 million. Great progress has been registered in the education of preschool-age children. Nurtured in the ideas of Mao Tse-tung, China's young people are advancing with big strides on the road to revolutionization and a new generation is growing up healthy.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung states that in the period of socialism, "the class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, the class struggle between various political forces, and the class struggle in the ideological field between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie will still be long and devious and at times may even become very acute. The proletariat seeks to transform the world according to its own world outlook, so does the bourgeoisie. In this respect, the question whether socialism or capitalism will win is still not really settled."

The struggle between the two classes, two roads, and two ideologies of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie will naturally find expression in the fields of school, family, and social education. This acute struggle is one between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie to win over the next generation. It is an important component of the class struggle running throughout the period of socialism. The struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie to win over the next generation is a matter of great significance which bears on the future of our country and the outcome of the revolutionary cause of the proletariat.

In educating the children, the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought must be held aloft, prominence given to politics, class struggle recognized as the key factor, proletarian ideology developed, and bourgeois ideology eradicated. The young people must be taught never to forget class struggle and never to forget the dictatorship of the proletariat, always to put politics in the fore, always to hold high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, to read Chairman Mao's works diligently, to follow his teachings resolutely, to act seriously in accordance with his instructions, to become his good children, and set out early upon the road of revolution.

The young people must be taught to cherish a deep love for Chairman Mao Tse-tung, for the Communist Party and for the socialist motherland, resolutely to oppose U.S.-led imperialism, modern revisionism and all reactionaries, all class enemies at home -- the landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements and rightists -- oppose the antiparty antisocialist gangsters, and oppose all kinds of monsters and freaks.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung always says that in the training of revolutionary younger generations, they must be tempered in actual struggle so as to cultivate an indomitable revolutionary spirit: They should dare to think, to speak out, to break through, to act and to make revolution. In the current, great socialist cultural revolution, the young people must be organized, guided, and encouraged to throw themselves into action with still greater enthusiasm, to go through fire and water, to acquaint themselves with the conditions of the times, undergo a profound tempering in this sharp class struggle, and increase their powers of resistance.

The educators must be the first to receive an education. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said: "The intellectual, too, needs remolding, and not only those who have not changed their basic stand; everybody should study and remold himself." "Unless they rid their minds of what is unsound, intellectuals cannot undertake the task of educating others."

China's educators must take an active part in the great socialist cultural revolution, develop proletarian ideology, and eradicate bourgeois ideology in the field of education, thoroughly expose and get rid of the black line which is opposed to the party, socialism, and the thought of Mao Tse-tung, and earnestly carry out the line of education formulated by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, and at the same time temper and remold themselves and greatly improve their socialist consciousness in this great struggle.

The question of whether or not to give children class education is one of the basic differences between proletarian educational thinking and bourgeois educational thinking. The bourgeoisie talk such nonsense as not "hurting the hearts and soul of children" "with the cruel realities of class struggle," and even openly advocate making the "humanism" of the bourgeoisie take the place of proletarian class education.

We must make an overall application of the educational thinking of Chairman Mao and thoroughly defeat and eliminate all these bourgeois elements.

Revolutionary teachers, coaches of the Young Pioneers, child workers and revolutionary parents must raise high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thinking and nurture the new generation with this thinking. We urge active elimination of the ideological influence of the bourgeoisie, revisionism, and feudalism, smashing of erosion and poison of the children by all monsters and friends, digging out the roots of revisionism which aims to restore capitalism, and bringing up and educating the revolutionary younger generation in a still better way.